

Crawley Borough Council

Minutes of Full Council

Wednesday, 16 October 2024 at 7.30 pm

Councillors Present:

S Sivarajah (Mayor)

J Hart (Deputy Mayor)

O Adeniyi, I Ashraf, M L Ayling, E Barrott, T G Belben, T Bidwell, C M Burke, B J Burgess, J Charatan, D Crow, H Hellier, N Hilton, I T Irvine, K L Jaggard, I Khan, K Khan, Y Khan, M G Jones, R A Lanzer, T Lunnon, C J Mullins, A Nawaz, B Noyce, D Patel, S Pritchard, D Ramsay, T Rana, J Russell and B Yianni

Also in Attendance:

Mr Russell Brown (Appointed Independent Person),

Mr Peter Nicolson (Appointed Independent Person)

Mr Brian Quinn (Alderman)

Officers Present:

Siraj Choudhury Head of Governance, People & Performance

Ian Duke Chief Executive

Heather Girling Democratic Services Officer

Chris Pedlow Democracy & Data Manager

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor S Bushnell, G S Jhans, S Mullins and M Mwangale

1. Disclosures of Interest

The disclosures of interests made by Councillors are set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

2. Minutes - 12 July 2024

The minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 12 July 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

3. Minutes -17 July 2024

The minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 17 July 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

4. **Communications**

The Mayor then provided the Full Council with a brief update on the Mayoral events attended since the last meeting which included attending the Rotary Club Investiture Ceremony, the 100th birthday celebration at Deerswood Lodge Care Home and witnessing an unforgettable charity football match hosted by the Russell Martin Foundation. After a nine year absence, Queens Square in Crawley once again hosted the Mela performance. It was an honour to open the event.

The Leader of the Council, followed by Cabinet Members Councillors Y Khan and Irvine, provided the Full Council with further context to their Cabinet Member announcements, as contained within the [Supplementary Agenda \(Order Paper\)](#).

5. **Public Question Time**

There were no questions from the public asked at the meeting. The Full Council noted the written question submitted in advance of the meeting along with the [response](#) which was include with the Supplementary Agenda – Order Paper.

6. **Recommendation 1 - Financial Outturn 2023-2024 (Quarter 4)**

The Full Council considered report [FIN/658](#) of the Head of Corporate Finance on the Quarter 4 Budget Monitoring. The Leader of the Council presented the report which set out a summary of the Council's outturn for the year for both revenue and capital spending for the financial year 2023/24. It identified the main variations from the approved spending levels and any potential impact on future budgets.

The recommendation was seconded and supported by Councillor Nawaz.

Councillor Crow also spoke on this item.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council:

- a) agrees to the transfers of reserves and level of balances as outlined in Section 10 of report [FIN/658](#).
- b) approves the addition to the Capital Programme of £1.1m funded from the Better Care Fund. (para 9.3 of report [FIN/658](#)).
- c) approves the addition to the Capital Programme of £60k for Three Bridges Station funded from S106 monies received (para 9.6 of report [FIN/658](#)).

7. Recommendation 2 - Treasury Management Outturn 2023 - 2024

The Full Council considered report [FIN/659](#) of the Head of Corporate Finance. The Leader of the Council presented the report, provided details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlighted compliance with the Council's policies previously approved by the Full Council. The CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management recommends that Councillors be updated on treasury management activities regularly and the report ensured the Council was implementing best practice in accordance with the Code.

The recommendation was seconded and supported by Councillor Nawaz.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council approves of the increase in the 2024/25 Operational Boundary and Authorised Limits contained within section 5.4 of report [FIN/659](#).

8. Recommendation 3 - Implementation of Procurement Act 2023

Full Council considered report [FIN/660](#) of the Head of Corporate Finance. The Leader of the Council presented the report which sought approval to changes to the Council's Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) and Procurement Code to reflect the Procurement Act 2023.

The recommendations were seconded and supported by Councillor Nawaz.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council approves the revised Procurement Code attached as Appendix A to report [FIN/660](#).

9. Recommendation 4 - Temporary Accommodation Acquisitions Programme (PART B)

The Mayor informed the Full Council that it was the intention to hold the discussion on recommendation 4 – Temporary Accommodation Acquisitions Programme in open public session (Part A), noting that the report SHAP/090 of the Head of Strategic Housing was an exempt (Part B) report.

The Full Council considered report SHAP/090 of the Head of Strategic Housing. The Leader of the Council introduced the report which sought approval for the expansion of the temporary accommodation acquisitions programme and to accept the allocation of grant funding from the Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) along with the Full Council's approval for the required budget to support the opportunity acquisitions necessary to achieve the objectives of the programme.

The recommendations were seconded and supported by Councillor Irvine.

Councillor Crow, spoke on this item.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council approves the uplift to the Temporary Accommodation Acquisitions Budget as detailed in section 5.8 of report SHAP/090, for the purposes of securing additional temporary accommodation aimed primarily at reducing the financial burden of using expensive nightly-paid accommodation and to enable the LAHF funding allocation to be utilised.

10. Recommendation 5 - Crawley Borough Local Plan 2023-2040

The Full Council considered report [PES/459](#) of the Head of Economy and Planning. The Leader of the Council welcomed this report to the Full Council. The report sought to recommend to the Full Council that it approve the Crawley Borough Local Plan 2023-2040 for its adoption, in accordance with the recommendations, subject to the Main Modifications necessary for soundness set out in the Inspectors' Final Report. The draft Local Plan before them had been found to be sound and legally compliant by the Independent Planning Inspectors subject to some minor technical modifications. The process started in 2018 and has had 5 separate consultation periods and endorsement by the Full Council on 3 different occasions, and the Plan had navigated a unique set of circumstance including water neutrality and would now assist in providing protection against unwelcomed development. The Planning Team were commended for the work throughout the process and on the compilation of the Local Plan.

Councillor Jones moved the recommendation which was seconded and fully supported by Councillor Nawaz.

Councillors Lanzer, Pritchard, Jaggard, Lunnon and Nawaz also spoke on this item.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council be recommended to adopt and publish the submitted Crawley Borough Local Plan 2023-2040 (May 2023) and Local Plan Map, amended to include all the Main Modifications recommended by the Planning Inspectors to make the Plan 'sound', together with other consequential and minor amendments as additional modifications, in accordance with Regulation 26 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 and Section 23(2) and (3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by s112(3) of the Localism Act 2011), as set out in report [PES/459](#).

11. Recommendation 6 - Tilgate Youth Centre Redevelopment - Approval of Scheme Budget and Authority to Appoint a Contractor (PART B)

The Mayor informed the Full Council that it was the intention to hold the discussion on recommendation 6 – Tilgate Youth Centre Redevelopment in open public session (Part A), noting that the report CH/209 of the Head of Crawley Homes was an exempt (Part B) report.

The Full Council considered report CH/209 of the Head of Crawley Homes. The Leader of the Council presented the report to the Full Council which sought approval of a scheme budget for the site's redevelopment, and authority to enter into a contract for the construction of 6no. dwellings. He also highlighted a proposed technical revision to recommendation 2.2c as detailed in report CH/209a of the Head of Crawley Homes.

Councillor Jones moved the recommendation which was seconded and supported by Councillor Irvine.

Councillors Crow, Lanzer, Hilton and Jaggard also spoke on this item.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council approves the proposed scheme's budget - stated under sections 6.7 and 6.12 within report CH/209, which includes approving the appropriation of land from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account at a value of £175,000 (as identified in 7.5 of report CH/209) - for the delivery of six affordable residential units (flats) at the Tilgate Youth Centre site, Shackleton Road.

12. Recommendation 7 - Housing Acquisitions and Future Delivery (PART B)

The Mayor informed the Full Council that it was the intention to hold the discussion on recommendation 7 – Housing Acquisitions and Future Delivery in open public session (Part A), noting that the report CH/210 of the Head of Crawley Homes was an exempt (Part B) report.

The Full Council considered report CH/210 of the Head of Crawley Homes. The Leader of the Council introduced the report which sought approval for the acquisitions of properties available in the market aimed at addressing specific housing needs, and sought the Full Council's approval to authorise an uplift in the Crawley Homes Acquisitions Budget in order to support this objective. It was noted that one of the objectives for pursuing these market acquisitions was to maximise the funding allocation awarded to Crawley Borough Council by the Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF), and to satisfy the requirements of this LAHF allocation in the most effective way.

The recommendations were seconded and supported by Councillor Irvine.

Councillor Crow, spoke on this item.

RESOLVED

That the Full Council approves the uplift to the Crawley Homes Acquisitions Budget from available funding sources as detailed in sections 5.9 (use of S106 monies) and 5.10 (10% contingency) and 5.11 (summary of budget requirement) of report CH/210, for the purposes of securing additional affordable housing in order to satisfy the housing requirements that meets the objectives of the LAHF funding allocation.

13. Notice of Motion - Changes to the Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Pensioners from Fuel Poverty (Conservative)

The Full Council considered the Notice of Motion – [Changes To The Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Pensioners From Fuel Poverty](#) – as set out on page 97 of the agenda.

The Motion was moved and presented by Councillor Crow who, in doing so, gave further explanation of the reasoning behind the Motion, and moved and accepted his own [amendment](#) to the Motion (as set out on page 17 of the Order Paper) to become the substantive Notice of Motion. He noted the reason for his own amendment was to ensure a full debate could occur on his Notice of Motion – Changes to the Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Pensioners from Fuel Poverty. The elements removed from the original Motion were similar and mirrored elements within the second Notice of Motion of the agenda, and he did not want to cause any duplication or affect the discussion of the changes to the winter fuel allowance.

The substantive Notice of Motion was seconded and supported by Councillor Burgess.

Councillors Lanzer, Jones, Jaggard, Lunnon, and Pritchard all spoke during the debate.

Councillor Crow used his right to reply and, in doing so, requested a recorded vote on the debate.

Following the conclusion of the debate, the Mayor invited the Democracy and Data Manager to commence the recorded voting process.

For the Substantive Notice of Motion: Councillors Belben, Bidwell, Burke, Burgess, Crow, Hellier, I Khan, Jaggard, Lanzer and Ramsay. (10)

Against the Substantive Notice of Motion: Councillors Adeniyi, Ashraf, Ayling, Barrott, Charatan, Hart, Hilton, Irvine, Jones, K Khan, Y Khan, Lunnon, C Mullins, Nawaz, Noyce, Patel, Pritchard, Rana, Russell, Sivarajah and Yianni. (21)

Abstentions: None (0)

RESOLVED

The Mayor declared that the proposed Notice of Motion - Changes to the Winter Fuel Allowance and Protecting Pensioners from Fuel Poverty had fallen – votes in favour 10, and votes against 21 with 0 abstentions.

14. Notice of Motion - Promotion of Pension Credits (Labour)

The Full Council considered the [Notice of Motion](#) – Promotion of Pension Credits – as set out on page 99 of the agenda.

The Motion was moved and presented by Councillor Jones who, in doing so, gave further explanation of the reasoning behind the Motion. It was seconded and supported by Councillor C Mullins.

Councillor Ramsay moved and presented the [Amendment](#) to the Notion of Motion (as shown in the Supplementary Agenda from page 21). The amendment was seconded by Councillor I Khan.

Councillors Jaggard, Pritchard, Lanzer and Crow then spoke on the item.

The Mayor called for a vote on the proposed amendment in respect of Notice of Motion – Promotion of Pension Credits, which fell by 10 votes in favour, 21 against and 0 abstentions.

The Mayor then called for a vote on the proposed Notice of Motion – Promotion of Pension Credits, which was carried by 21 votes in favour, 0 against and 10 abstentions.

RESOLVED

This Council notes the pressures on the nation's finances caused by the £22 billion black hole created by the previous Conservative Government and the difficult choices this has created, including restricting those pensioners eligible for the Winter Fuel Allowance to those in receipt of pension credits.

This Council further notes that official figures from the ONS estimate that there are approximately 1,500 eligible households who are not currently claiming the pension credit in Crawley Borough.

The Council recognises the efforts already being undertaken by Crawley Borough Council officers to spread awareness, including the successful 'Money Worries' page on the council's website containing a 'Help for Pensioners' section specifically addressing Pension Credit take up, the Winter Warmer Event at K2 on Thursday 17 October between 11am and 3.30pm where staff will be on hand to help submit an application, and regular drop ins at the Town Hall doing likewise.

Whilst much is being done, we are keen to go even further.

Therefore, this Council calls on our officers to use any other effective measures, including:

- a) working with other partners such as Citizens Advice, and voluntary and community groups within the Borough, to assist with applications and to maximise the number of eligible pensioners in Crawley taking up their entitlement to Pension credits,

- b) increase publicity on this issue including through the winter edition of Crawley Live,
- c) investigating if a targeted campaign would be feasible based on previous successful take up efforts for other methods of assistance, and
- d) helping signpost any pensioners on low incomes to other sources of help that may be available, such as the Household Support Fund, to mitigate any shortfall.

15. Councillors' Question Time

Name of Councillor asking Question	Name of Cabinet Member Responding
<p>Councillor Crow to the Cabinet Member for Public Protection</p> <p>We have the PSPO for car cruising in the town, how well do you think that's going?</p> <p>Supplementary – Are you aware that on the evening on Saturday 20 July there was a car cruising event at Tesco at Three Bridges and a major incident due to over 100 cars. Were you aware of the major car cruising incident within the town. I did phone the police and mention our PSPO to them but do you know if anything has happened as a result of that major incident?</p>	<p>Councillor Y Khan, Cabinet Member for Public Protection</p> <p>Recently we've issued 5 warning letters. Tilgate is the biggest concern at the moment. Following the warning letters, if there are re-offences, then fines are issued.</p> <p>I am afraid I was not aware of that particular incident. I will make a note and follow up to find out for you.</p>
<p>Councillor Ayling to the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Wellbeing</p> <p>I am delighted with the investment which has been put into the Millpond Adventure Playground. But I would like see the building and the area next to it back in use. Can the Cabinet Member confirm if there are any plans to do this in the future? Can I also thank him for the new Council play areas which we visited recently.</p>	<p>Councillor C Mullins, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Wellbeing</p> <p>We have a play areas refurbishment programme which is to make sure our play areas are up to date, safe and to be enjoyed by all the children. As far as the Millpond Adventure Playground is concerned, the full refurbishment is complete and proving popular with residents. But the building was empty. However, on 28 October at 3pm there will be an opening of a café (Ellie's Café) which will hopefully be successful.</p>
<p>Councillor Jaggard to the Leader of the Council</p> <p>During the last Motion, the Winter Warmer Hubs were mentioned that were set up at the community centres a couple of years'</p>	<p>Councillor Jones, Leader of the Council</p> <p>The assessment from previous years was that the support and provision from we gave from grants and other funding sources to some of the community groups</p>

<p>ago and then they stopped. Is the Council going to set up Winter Warmer Hubs again in our community centres this coming winter to help those who are faced with the 'heat or eat' dilemma?</p>	<p>and charities did seem to be addressing what need existed. There hasn't been any strong consideration to returning to providing the warm hubs but if Councillor Jaggard would like to have a conversation offline we can consider any views and considerations.</p>
<p>Councillor Lunnon to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>Recently the High Street has been closed due to water works. I know it's not directly in control of this Council but it's obviously harming local businesses and residents' enjoyment of the area and I just wondered if there was any update on when the High Street may be opened please?</p>	<p>Councillor Nawaz, Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>I appreciate it's impacting businesses and residents. I believe it's the same issue and it happened possibly January as well where a water main burst. It's out of the control of the Council, but WSCC Highways Department and the water company are dealing with it hence you've probably noticed the end of the High Street is currently closed. An email was received today notifying of a temporary closure, so we are working with them and hopefully this will be completed in the next few days. We will then work to clear up any rubbish. I will keep updated with officers and update you accordingly.</p>
<p>Councillor Belben to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>I was dismayed to hear that the closure of Marks and Spencer is now to be the 16 November. How do you now think this will impact our Town Centre and what are you planning to do please?</p>	<p>Councillor Nawaz, Cabinet Member Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>I think we can all agree this is not good news for the Town Centre and I was saddened and surprised that M&S has brought this date forward as we initially heard it may have been January but now, due to extensive issues with maintenance of the building and staffing issues, it's been decided to bring the decision forward. It's a sad decision but M&S still see Crawley as place worth investing and are looking for different and bigger sites and I hope the company is able to find a suitable location. We will do all we can to help staff impacted by the closure through our Employ Crawley team.</p> <p>However, the Town Centre is still successful, vacancy rate is only 11.3% so below the national average (14%). We continue to do what we can to encourage investment in the town for retail and</p>

	<p>footfall. The planning application for Station Gateway has been submitted and so the regeneration programme is still progressing well.</p>
<p>Councillor Barrott to the Leader of the Council</p> <p>I firmly believe that decisions about local services should be taken closer to the people that they affect. We need greater powers, greater funding and greater responsibility to flow to local government as democratically leaders are placed. So it's good that Government has made devolution a key strand of one of its five missions to kick start economic growth. I was pleased to see us submit an early express of interest for a Sussex wide devolution deal and I would be grateful if you could update us on how those conversations are progressing ahead of the English Devolution Bill in the next few weeks?</p>	<p>Councillor Jones, Leader of the Council</p> <p>The devolution of powers down to local level is probably one of most important and exciting things this new Labour government is talking about doing. Crawley Borough Council has joined all the other district and boroughs in West Sussex in supporting this expression of interest sent in by Brighton and Hove City Council which suggests a Strategic Combined Authority that covers the whole of Sussex. When you look at some of the bigger public services that require that strategic outlook transport, health services, housing allocations, police, economic development, all are either run by central government or on footprints which are Sussex wide. A population the size of Sussex allows us to address the bigger issues.</p>
<p>Councillor Burgess to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>I have a resident who has asked me to thank the Council for the parks and open spaces and to thank the teams for their work. However, please can we bring some colour into the town centre, possibly by introducing some flowers. Also, I wondered what the current situation was with regards to the regeneration of the Decathlon store please?</p>	<p>Councillor Nawaz, Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>A lot of work has been undertaken by Creative Crawley where murals have been displayed on buildings to bring colour in the town centre and further sites are being considered to make it attractive. I will take your suggestion back to the officers, and also talk to Town Centre BID as well, because we have different partners and stakeholders. With regards to Decathlon, the planning application is in the system but there are other issues such as water neutrality. I will try and find out further information for you and issue an update.</p>

16. Vote to Extend the Meeting (Guillotine)

As the business of the meeting had not been completed within the scheduled two hours and 30 minutes, a vote on continuation in line with Full Council Procedure Rule 8.3 was held. The Mayor required the Full Council to consider if it wished to continue with the meeting. Having put it to the vote, the Full Council agreed that the meeting be continued for an additional period not exceeding 30 minutes.

17. Councillors' Question Time (continued)

Name of Councillor asking Question	Name of Cabinet Member Responding
<p>Councillor Russell to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>Many of us in the room are aware of a number of difficulties the residents of Forge Wood are facing relating to rules and regulations over the development, and most of those are not of the making of Crawley Borough Council. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Councillors from both parties who have worked together in a non-partisan manner and cross party way to help residents. But we have a situation and I've been approached many times where we have residents who have been there for 8 years who are unable to put in planning permissions to make variances on their own property and their homes. What I would ask is please can the Cabinet Member work with officers to provide a very clear break down of what is holding up this situation, why is it they still cannot make these planning applications, what are the barriers to this, and when are they likely to be removed? I would be very grateful if you could work with the officers and Councillors and if you could produce a document that Forge Wood and Pound Hill North Councillors can work with the residents, so we can progress so this can be made available for us and residents.</p>	<p>Councillor Nawaz, Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>I totally agree with you on the concerns raised by residents. There is a complex process of planning applications and there are conditions attached to the applications which are mainly related to highway improvements generally. However, I will investigate this further and work with officers and provide you with the detailed answers which will assist you and fellow Councillors in going back to the residents.</p>
<p>Councillor Patel to the Leader of the Council</p> <p>Please can we have an update on the empty Chinese takeaway at Southgate Parade which has been in a very poor state of repair and a source of many local complaints,</p>	<p>Councillor Jones, Leader of the Council</p> <p>Southgate residents will be familiar with the issues concerning this property which I believe has been empty since before Covid and there have been instances of fly-tipping which required the Council to</p>

<p>particularly over the last year. Whilst being empty there have been several instances of fly tipping at the rear of the property so it's really important to address this empty property.</p>	<p>increase security at the premises. The shop and maisonette were left in a very poor state of repair, but our Assets Team have ensured there has been a deep clean and the concerns have been dealt with. There were many legal delays, but the property is now being marketed and there has been good interest so hopefully it will be let shortly.</p>
<p>Councillor Hilton to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change</p> <p>There have been a number of complaints about pollution going into the Gatwick Stream, which runs through Maidenbower, Three Bridges, Pound Hill North and Forge Wood. It's a concern for the ecosystem, and it impacts on wildlife and potential for contamination for both people and pets particularly. We're working hard to identify the source, what can Crawley Borough Council do to help with those enquiries?</p>	<p>Councillor Noyce, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change</p> <p>In situations like this where there's been a spillage or a pollution into a stream or a river the Environment Agency are in charge, and it needs to be reported to them. They will take the lead and they have the enforcement ability and will report back to stakeholders.</p>
<p>Councillor K Khan to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change</p> <p>The car park at Broadfield Barton has been in a bad state and I just wondered if anything was being done about this and please could I have an update?</p>	<p>Councillor Noyce, Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change</p> <p>The issue with potholes in the Broadfield Barton car park had been going on for quite some time. On 3rd September the car park was closed overnight and it was resurfaced on the entrance and exit which was where the main issues had been reported. These repairs appear to have been successful.</p>
<p>Councillor Ashraf to the Cabinet Member for Resources</p> <p>In February 2020 a contract was signed by the Council with CityFibre for the provision of 90 public service network connections. I understand the funding for this contract came from a rates pool allocated to digital connectivity that was across West Sussex. I see last month the contract was cancelled. Can I ask why the contract was cancelled, if there are any financial implications for the Council and if there are none, what will be done with this funding instead?</p>	<p>Councillor Rana, Cabinet Member for Resources</p> <p>We did have a contract with CityFibre in 2020, and when we started this work the public service network connections were considered safe and secure options for connectivity and promoted by the government. But since then, the Government is now advising against procuring PSN so, as the connections had not been delivered, we cancelled the contract with CityFibre. The Council has not lost any money and the money</p>

earmarked within the rates pool is to be reassigned for other projects delivering digital infrastructure and connectivity and officers are currently considered these.

18. Receiving the Minutes of the Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Commission and Other Committees including Items for Debate

Moved by Councillor Hart (as the Deputy Mayor):

RESOLVED

That the following reports be received:

- Audit Committee – 9 July 2024
- Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 23 July 2024
- Cabinet – 24 July 2024
- Licensing Committee – 5 August 2024
- Planning Committee – 27 August 2024
- Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 2 September 2024
- Audit Committee – 3 September 2024
- Cabinet – 4 September 2024
- Governance Committee – 9 September 2024
- Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 30 September 2024
- Planning Committee – 1 October 2024
- Cabinet – 2 October 2024

19. Item for Debate - 2024-2025 Budget Monitoring - Quarter 1

Councillor Lanzer explained his rationale for bring forward this item for debate. He highlighted a number of aspects from within the Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring report, including expressing concerns over the projected overspend of £575k due to the ratable values of the empty floor of the Town Hall, partly as a result of the levels of rental income achieved on the filled floors and how that the Commission's comments to the Cabinet did not address the overspend, even though it had been discussed. He also commented that within the report, but hidden, was the fact that in the 2023-24 Outturn Report, it failed to include, within the Mayor Repair Reserve section, the loan to the Public Works Loan Broad of £12mil.

Councillor Jones, as the Cabinet Member with responsibility for finance responded, commenting that the Council was currently in the process of appealing the level set for the ratable value for the empty floors and he would not comment on the levels of rents of our tenants in a public meeting, but would happily meet Councillor Lanzer and the Head of Corporate Finance to go through the matter outside of the meeting. On the error, it was simply due to a missing line in the Outturn report considered by Councillors, the loan had been included correctly within the Council's ledger and in the Statement for Accounts.

Closure of Meeting

With the business of the Full Council concluded, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.18 pm.

S Sivarajah (Mayor)

Disclosures of Interest Received

Councillor	Item and Minute	Meeting	Type and Nature of Disclosure
Councillor Lanzer	Financial Outturn 2023-2024: Budget Monitoring-Quarter 4 (Minute 5)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 23 July 2024	Personal interest – a West Sussex County Councillor
Councillor Hellier	Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (HASC) (Minute 7)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 23 July 2024	Personal interest – NHS Public Governor
Councillor Lanzer	Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (HASC) (Minute 7)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 23 July 2024	Personal interest – a West Sussex County Councillor & Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing
Councillor Nawaz	Pavement Licence Policy (Minute 6)	Licensing Committee 5 August 2024	Personal Interest – has an interest in a business in Crawley town centre.
Councillor Lanzer	2024-2025 Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1 (Minute 7)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 2 September 2024	Personal interest – a West Sussex County Councillor
Councillor Pritchard	Cabinet Member Discussion with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development (Minute 5)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 30 September 2024	Personal Interest - Chair of Planning Committee
Councillor Hellier	Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (HASC) (Minute 6)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 30 September 2024	Personal interest – NHS Public Governor
Councillor Lanzer	Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (HASC) (Minute 6)	Overview and Scrutiny Commission 30 September 2024	Personal interest – a West Sussex County Councillor & Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing
Councillor Pritchard	Notice Of Motion 1 – Changes To The Winter	Full Council 16 October 2024	Personal Interest – Member of Asleep

	Fuel Allowance And Protecting Pensioners From Fuel Poverty		Union and train driver.
Councillor Crow	Notice Of Motion 2 – Promotion Of Pension Credits	Full Council 16 October 2024	Personal Interest – Cabinet Member responsible for administering Household Support Fund